

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method for improving patient compliance with a medical program, the method comprising the steps:
- a) providing a portable medical device means providing a medication storing means, a medication accessing means, a dispensed medication counting means, and a medical device wave energy communicating means;
 - 10 b) sequencing a counter of the dispensed medication counting means each time the medication accessing means is manipulated for access to the medication storing means;
 - c) establishing a data set comprising each new numerical value of the counter and a corresponding time and date of the numerical value of the counter;
 - 15 d) repetitively transmitting a wave energy signal corresponding to each newly established data set for a selected period of transmission time, the transmission time period chosen to assure a selected probability of the receipt of said wave energy signal by a base station.
- 20 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of activating a human responsive signaling means in accordance with a medical schedule so as to provoke the scheduled and timely use of the portable medical device means.
3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of transmitting the medication
25 schedule from the base station to the medical device means.
4. The method of claim 3 further comprising the step of transmitting the data set values of the medical device means to the base station.

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6. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of composing a refill request message and of transmitting the refill request message to the patient.
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7. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of composing a graphical summary report showing a time sequence of medication dispensing over a selected time duration, and correlated thereto a time sequence of a corresponding medical data measurement over the selected time duration.
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8. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of storing a list of all said data sets established over the selected period of transmission time; transmitting the list repetitively at a selected frequency of transmission.
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9. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of pairing each of the data sets with a digital data integrity checking code and further providing an error-reducing protocol operating on the data sets as received for providing error reduction.
10. A method for improving patient compliance with a medical program, the method comprising the steps:
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- a) providing a portable medical device means providing a medical state sensing means, a medical state value recording means, and a medical device wave energy communicating means;
- b) recording the medical state each time the medical state sensing means is manipulated for sensing the medical state;

- 5 c) establishing a data set comprising each new value of the medical state and a corresponding time and date of the numerical value of the counter;
- d) repetitively transmitting a wave energy signal corresponding to each newly established data set for a selected period of transmission time, the transmission time period chosen to assure a selected probability of the receipt of said wave energy signal by a base station.
- 10 11. The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of activating a human responsive signaling means in accordance with a medical schedule so as to provoke the scheduled and timely use of the portable medical device means.
12. The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of transmitting the medical state sensing schedule from the base station to the medical device means.
- 15 13. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of transmitting the data set values of the medical device means to the base station.
14. The method of claim 13 further comprising the steps of providing a remote monitoring station; receiving the data set values from the base station at the remote monitoring station; computing a graphical correlation between the received data set values and a selected medical schedule, and transmitting the graphical correlation to the patient.
- 20 15. The method of claim 10 further comprising the steps of storing a list of all said data sets established over the selected period of transmission time and then transmitting the list repetitively at a selected frequency of transmission.
- 25 16. The method of claim 10 further comprising the steps of pairing each of the data sets with a digital data integrity checking code and further providing an error-reducing protocol operating on the data sets as received for providing error reduction.